
Economic Development Committee

Komiti OOhanga Whakatupu

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Development Committee held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton and via Audio Visual link on Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 9.31am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr R Hamilton

Heamana

Deputy Chairperson Cr E Wilson

Heamana Tuarua

Members

Deputy Mayor G Taylor

Cr M Gallagher

Cr R Pascoe

Cr M van Oosten

Mayor P Southgate (Ex Officio)

Maangai O Te Ua

Maangai T P Thompson-Evans

In Attendance: Cr S Thomson (via Audio Visual)

Cr D Macpherson

Sean Murray – General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events

Blair Bowcott – Executive Director Special Projects

Tracey Musty - Financial Controller

Wendy O'Neill – Strategic Property Team Leader

Mike Bennett - Key Account Manager, Growth Funding & Analytics

Stuart Gordon – Waikato Regional Airport Ltd

Mark Morgan – Waikato Regional Airport Ltd

Barry Harris - Waikato Regional Airport Ltd

Governance Team: Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader

Tyler Gaukrodger and Carmen Fortin – Governance Advisors

1. Apologies – *Tono aroha*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Hamilton)

That the apologies for partial attendance from Cr Gallagher (Council Business), Cr Macpherson (Council Business) and Cr Pascoe (Council Business) are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Hamilton)

That the agenda is confirmed noting that:

- a) Item 7 (Waikato Regional Airport Limited - Year End Report 2019/20) will be taken after item 5 (Confirmation of the Open Economic Development Committee Minutes – 8 September 2020) to accommodate guest presenter availability; and
- b) Item 8 (Waikato Innovation Growth Ltd, New Zealand Food Innovation (Waikato) Ltd Annual Report 30 June 2020 and Letter of Expectation) will be taken after Item 7 (Waikato Regional Airport Limited - Year End Report 2019/20) to accommodate guest presenter availability.

3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga*

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Public Forum – *Aatea koorero*

No members of the public wished to speak.

5. Confirmation of the Economic Development Committee Open Minutes of 8 September 2020

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Maangai Te Ua)

That the Economic Development Committee confirm the Open Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 8 September 2020 as a true and correct record.

7. Waikato Regional Airport Limited - Year End Report 2019/20

Guest presenters Mark Morgan and Barry Harris representing Waikato Regional Airport Ltd provided an update on the previous year at the Waikato Regional Airport. They spoke of passenger numbers, financial returns, investment, debt, future initiatives, 2021 forecasts and long term Covid recovery. They responded to questions from Members concerning international travel, isolation hotels, alternative energy investment, post Covid recovery, parking, staff changes due to Covid and health risks to staff.

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the draft 2019/20 Annual Report from WRAL noting the final audit version will be circulated when available.

Cr Gallagher left the meeting (10:08am) during the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.

8. Waikato Innovation Growth Ltd, New Zealand Food Innovation (Waikato) Ltd Annual Report 30 June 2020 and Letter of Expectation

Guest presenters Stuart Gordon and Barry Harris provided an update on current projects, Covid-19 impact and financial forecasts. The Executive Director Special Projects outlined future business reviews and the letter of expectation. They responded to questions from Members concerning review timeline and scope.

Resolved: (Cr Hamilton/Cr Pascoe)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves the Letter of Expectation 2021/22, subject to amendments to section 3 – HCC Shareholding and other minor amendments; and
- c) delegates authority to the Chair of the Economic Development Committee to finalise the wording and to sign the Letter of Expectation 2021/22.

6. Chair's Report – Recommendation to Council

The Chair and General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events took the report as read and responded to questions from Members concerning assessment criteria, risk profile of projects, the Long Term Plan and the endowment funds.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Deputy Mayor Taylor)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) recommends the Council approves that delegation and oversight of the International Relations Policy move to the Economic Development Committee (from the Community Committee);
- c) recommends the Council approves the Municipal Endowment Fund Assessment criteria that will enable the development of the Action and Management Plan for the Municipal Endowment Fund;
- d) requests staff seek expressions of interest from suitably qualified personnel to continue to assist the Municipal Endowment Fund work noting this will be funded from the Municipal Endowment Fund;
- e) notes that council is to actively leverage the Municipal Endowment fund, though investment in a suitable property and development portfolio, to achieve Council's strategic intent; and
- f) recommends that Council approves that the value of the municipal endowment fund, not currently invested in property, and offset against debt, is treated as cash backed for the purposes of financial strategy measures; to be clear total debt will be increased by value of the municipal endowment fund, offset against debt, in "debt to revenue" reporting within financial strategy reporting effective immediately.

Mayor Southgate left the meeting (10:44am) during the above item. She was not present when the item was voted on.

The meeting was adjourned from 10:48am to 10:58am.

Mayor Southgate re-joined the meeting during the above adjournment.

Following the above adjournment Maangai Te Ua spoke of the Armistice day of November 11th, signalling the end of World War one and was followed by a moment of silence.

6. Civic Financial Services Ltd Half Year Report 30 June 2020

The Financial Controller took the report as read, noting that the full year report will be available after the Civic Financial Services Ltd financial year end in December 2020. She responded to questions from Members concerning staff financial literacy options.

Resolved: (Cr Hamilton/Cr Wilson)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the Civic Financial Services Ltd Half Year Report to 30 June 2020.

7. Draft Domain Endowment Fund Policy – Recommendation to Council

The Strategic Property Team Leader took the report as read and responded to questions from Members concerning debt, development options, reserve classification and the Long Term Plan.

Resolved: (Cr Hamilton/Maangai Te Ua)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) recommends the Council approves the Draft Domain Endowment Fund Policy (previously the Municipal and Domain Endowment Fund Policy); and
- c) recommends the Council notes that the Draft Domain Endowment Fund Policy will be referred back to the Municipal Endowment Fund working group for further consideration and recommendation concerning the financial strategy reporting of the fund.

Cr Gallagher re-joined the meeting (11:16am) during the above item. He was present when the item was voted on.

8. H3 Group - Quarter 1 Activity Report 1 July to 30 September 2020

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events provided an update of the H3 Group activity during the Covid recovery period and upcoming events. He responded to questions from Members concerning additional events.

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Gallagher)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

9. Open Information only reports

The Chair took the reports as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning financial investment partnerships and business engagement.

Resolved: (Cr Hamilton/Cr Wilson)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the following information only reports:

- a) General Managers Report; and
- b) Economic Update 28 October 2020.

10. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved: (Cr Hamilton/Cr van Oosten)

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Economic Development Committee Public Excluded Minutes of 8 September 2020) Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. H3 Activity Report - Verbal Update)	
C3. Victoria Street Properties Options		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C2.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h)
Item C3.	to maintain legal professional privilege	Section 7 (2) (g)
	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h)

The meeting went into a Public Excluded Session at 11:38am.

The meeting was declared closed at 1:07pm.